

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00726 070900Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----070902Z 053013 /13

R 070659Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3781
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 0726

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (EO, TAGS AND SUBJECT LINE)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR SU US UG LY CD PINS
SUBJECT: NIMEIRI CONCERNED RE SITUATION IN UGANDA

1. WHEN I CALLED ON PRESIDENT NIMEIRI AT HIS HOME EVENING MARCH 5, I FOUND HIM READING LATEST TIME WITH PICTURE AMIN ON COVER. NIMEIRI COMMENTED THAT, DESPITE NEGATIVE TONE ARTICLE, SUCH PUBLICITY WOULD PLEASE AMIN WHO SIMPLY WISHED TO BE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IN PUBLIC EYE. PRESIDENT THEN TOLD ME WITH LAUGH THAT AMIN HAD ASKED GOS EMISSARY LOGALI, WHO VISITED KAMPALA LAST WEEK, IF GOS COULD NOT HELP IN RESTORING GOOD UGANDAN/USG RELATIONS. NIMEIRI COMMENTED THAT ONLY AMIN'S POLICIES NEEDED CHANGING IN ORDER BRING THIS ABOUT. THERE WAS CONSEQUENTLY NO NEED FOR GOS ROLE.

2. NIMEIRI THEN SAID HE CONTINUED BE CONCERNED BY UNCERTAIN
SECRET

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SITUATION IN UGANDA. THERE HAD RECENTLY BEEN ELEVEN FORAYS BY UGANDAN TROOPS FROM KIDEPO AREA INTO SUDAN. SUDANESE TERRITORY AT THAT POINT CONSTITUTED GAME PARK AND NIMEIRI THOUGHT INCURSIONS PROBABLY WERE FOR GAME. HOWEVER, LOGALI HAD CALLED SITUATION TO AMIN'S ATTENTION. AMIN HAD PROFESSED IGNORANCE, SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY INVESTIGATE AND INDICATED THAT HE DID NOT WISH DAMAGE SUDAN/UGANDA RELATION. NIMEIRI

COMMENTED THAT HE THOUGHT QADHAFI MIGHT BE TRYING STIR UP TROUBLE AS HE CLAIMED WAS CASE IN CAE WHERE BOKASSA'S FONMIN HAD, HE SAID, JUST MADE UNFOUNDED CHARGE RE UNAUTHORIZED SUDANESE OVERFLIGHTS CAE TERRITORY. NIMEIRI SAID HE SURMISED MONEY FOR THE SOVIET ARMS WHICH WERE NOW COMING INTO UGANDA HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY LIBYA. NOTING THERE HAD RECENTLY BEEN CUBAN DELEGATION IN KAMPALA, PRESIDENT ADDED THAT HE FEARED CUBANS MIGHT BE ABOUT TO PROVIDE PILOTS FOR UGANDAN AIR FORCE. IN PAST THERE HAD BEEN SOME PALESTINIAN PILOTS, BUT HE THOUGHT THESE HAD LEFT AND OTHER FOREIGNERS WOULD BE NEEDED SINCE UGANDANS THEMSELVES LACKED TRAINED PILOTS.

3. COMMENT. INCURSIONS BY UGANDAN SOLDIERS INTO SUDAN MAY HAVE BEEN CHIEF REASON LOGALI WAS DISPATCHED KAMPALA SO SPEEDILY. NIMEIRI DID NOT GIVE IMPRESSION OF DEEP CONCERN UGANDAN TROOP INCURSIONS BUT RATHER INDICATED, IN TONE AMUSED TOLERANCE, THAT AMIN WAS UNPREDICTABLE INDIVIDUAL WHO REQUIRED CONTINUOUS WATCHING.
BREWER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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